

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 LONDON 10753 071735Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SAA-01 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02
SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 L-03 H-01 PA-01
IO-13 SSM-03 DODE-00 NEAE-00 /082 W
-----050062 072011Z /46

P R 071724Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7902
INFO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

S E C R E T LONDON 10753

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: PGOV, SY, LE, IS
SUBJECT: US POSITION ON LEBANESE CRISIS

REF: STATE 170678

1. EMBOFF GAVE FCO NEAR EAST DEPT COPY OF REFTTEL,
CONTAINING "FURTHER DEPARTMENTAL STATEMENT ON LEBANON,"
ON JULY 7. FCO OFFICER ASKED SOMEWHAT RHETORICALLY IF
USG WOULD BE WILLING TO PUT PRESSURE ON THE ISRAELIS
FOR INSTIGATING THE PHALANGE AND LEADING THE LATTER INTO
THE OVER-CONFIDENCE WHICH INDUCED THEM TO TANGLE WITH THE
SYRIANS. FCO OFFICER ALSO VOLUNTEERED THAT FCO BELIEVES
WE SHOULD STILL BE PREPARED TO RESORT TO UN SECURITY

COUNCIL MEETING IF CEASE-FIRE DOES NOT TAKE HOLD.

2. FCO OFFICER MADE A POINT OF NOTING TO EMBOFF
ANALYTICAL CONCLUSION OF CURRENT BRITISH INTELLIGENCE
ASSESSMENTS, TO THE EFFECT THAT SYRIA'S OVER-RIDING AIM
IS TO AVOID MILITARY CONFLICT WITH ISRAEL, SO THAT SYRIA
MAY SEEK A COMPROMISE WITH THE CHRISTIANS. BRITISH ALSO
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BELIEVE THAT IF THE FIGHTING CONTINUES, THERE IS A RISK
OF ISRAELI MILITARY ACTION.

BREWSTER

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Concepts: FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, POLITICAL SITUATION
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Draft Date: 07 jul 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Event:
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Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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